

What is claimed is:

1. A speech application system, comprising:
 - A. a speech recognition (SR) system configured to receive an audio input and generate a set of semantic data representing a plurality of valid interpretations of said audio input;
 - B. a speech application script, loaded at the SR system and configured to task said SR system, said application script defining a context;
 - C. a semantic data evaluator, configured to receive said set of semantic data and said context and, as a function thereof, to generate a linguistic result corresponding to said audio input, and to return said linguistic result to said application script; and
 - D. a set of reusable object oriented interfaces local to the SR system, said interfaces configured to interface said application script with said SR system.
2. A system as in claim 1, wherein one or more of said application script is included in a Web page.
3. A system as in claim 1, wherein one or more of said interfaces are objects exposed via ActiveX facilities.
4. A system as in claim 1, wherein said application script includes programming code

written in a language chosen from a group of scripting languages comprising

(1) Jscript;

(2) PerlScript; and

(3) VBscript.

5. A system as in claim 1, wherein said set of semantic data is represented as a semantic tree instance.

6. A system as in claim 1, wherein said set of semantic data is represented in a semantic object.

7. A system as in claim 1, wherein said audio input is received from a device chosen from a group comprising:

A. a telephone;

B. a cellular telephone;

C. a personal computer;

D. an application server; and

E. an audio receiver.

8. A system as in claim 1, wherein said audio input is received via a network comprised of one or more wire or wireless networks from a group comprising:

A. a telephone network;

B. a cellular telephone network;

- C. a LAN;
- D. a WAN;
- E. a virtual private network;
- F. the Internet; and
- G. the Web.

9. A system as in claim 1, wherein said plurality of valid interpretations of said audio input includes all valid interpretations of said audio input within said context.

10. A system as in claim 1, wherein speech application is chosen from a group of interactive speech applications comprising:

- A. consumer survey applications;
- B. Web access applications;
- C. educational applications, including health education applications and computer-based lesson applications and testing applications;
- D. screening applications, including patient screening applications and consumer screening applications;
- E. health risk assessment applications;
- F. monitoring applications, including health data monitoring applications and consumer preference monitoring applications;
- G. compliance applications, including applications that generate notifications of compliance related activities, including notifications regarding health or product

14 maintenance;

15 H. test results applications, including applications that provide at least one of lab
16 test results, standardized tests results, consumer product test results, and
17 maintenance results; and

18 I. linking applications, including applications that link two or more of the
19 applications in parts A through H.

1 11. A speech application system comprising:

2 A. a speech recognition (SR) system hosted on a first computer and configured to
3 receive an audio input from an input device and to generate one or more
4 semantic objects representing a plurality of valid interpretations of said audio
5 input;

6 B a Web page loaded on said first computer, from a second computer, said Web
7 page including an application script comprising a set of speech application
8 functionality and configured to interact with said input device via said SR
9 system, wherein said speech application is configured to conduct speech
10 application sessions without accessing said second computer;

11 C. a set of reusable object oriented interfaces local to the first computer, said
12 interfaces including:

- 13 (1) one or more interface objects configured to facilitate access by said
14 application script to standard services of said first computer; and
15 (2) a semantic interface configured to facilitate access to and control of said

SR system by said application script; and

D. a semantic object evaluator, configured to generate from said semantic objects, as a function of said context, a single interpretation of said audio input and to return said single interpretation to said application script.

12. A system as in claim 11, wherein speech application is chosen from a group of interactive speech applications comprising:

- A. consumer survey applications;
- B. Web access applications;
- C. educational applications, including health education applications and computer-based lesson applications and testing applications;
- D. screening applications, including patient screening applications and consumer screening applications;
- E. health risk assessment applications;
- F. monitoring applications, including health data monitoring applications and consumer preference monitoring applications;
- G. compliance applications, including applications that generate notifications of compliance related activities, including notifications regarding health or product maintenance;
- H. test results applications, including applications that provide at least one of lab test results, standardized tests results, consumer product test results, and maintenance results; and

18 I. linking applications, including applications that link two or more of the
19 applications in parts A through H.

1 13. A system as in claim 11, wherein said set of reusable objet oriented interfaces and said
2 semantic object evaluator are objects exposed via ActiveX facilities.

1 14. A speech application script included within a Web page, and configured to interact with
2 a SR system hosted on a first computer and configured to receive an audio input and to
3 generate one or more semantic objects representing a plurality of valid interpretations
4 of said audio input, said first computer also including a plurality of interfaces objects
5 and a semantic object evaluator configured to generate from said one or more semantic
6 objects a single interpretation of said audio input as a function of a context, said speech
7 application script comprising:

- 8 A. a context definition;
- 9 B. a link to said semantic object evaluator;
- 10 C. a link to said SR system, via a semantic interface object, from said plurality of
11 interface objects;
- 12 D. a set of control functionality comprising:
- 13 (1) a session manager configured to generate user prompts and to determine
14 a next action as a function of said single interpretation;
- 15 (2) a SR system controller, configured to task said SR system; and
- 16 (3) a communication manager, configured to manage interaction with said

17 input device via said SR system,
18 wherein said speech application script is loaded on said first computer from a second
19 computer and said speech application is configured to conduct speech application
20 sessions without accessing said second computer.

1 15. A system as in claim 14 wherein said interface objects are objects exposed via ActiveX
2 facilities.

1 16. A application script as in claim 14 wherein said speech application script is a speech
2 application chosen from a group of interactive speech applications comprising:
3 A. consumer survey applications;
4 B. Web access applications;
5 C. educational applications, including health education applications and computer-
6 based lesson applications and testing applications;
7 D. screening applications, including patient screening applications and consumer
8 screening applications;
9 E. health risk assessment applications;
10 F. monitoring applications, including health data monitoring applications and
11 consumer preference monitoring applications;
12 G. compliance applications, including applications that generate notifications of
13 compliance related activities, including notifications regarding health or product
14 maintenance;

- H. test results applications, including applications that provide at least one of lab test results, standardized tests results, consumer product test results, and maintenance results; and
- I. linking applications, including applications that link two or more of the applications in parts A through H.

17. A method of performing a speech application session, wherein a SR system is hosted on a first computer and includes a means to receive an audio input, said method comprising:

- A. receiving said audio input by said SR system;
- B. loading a Web page including an application script on said first computer, said application script including a set of functionality configured to manage a speech application session and control said SR system, without accessing functionality from a second computer;
- C. establishing a set of standard interfaces between said SR system and said application script, including establishing a semantic evaluator;
- D. in response to tasking by said application script, generating by said SR system one or more semantic objects representing all possible interpretations of said audio input;
- E. in response to receiving a context defined by said application script, determining by said semantic evaluator a single semantic interpretation from said one or more semantic objects; and

17 F. determining a next action by said application script as a function of said single
18 semantic interpretation.

1 18. A method of configuring a speech application system, wherein a SR system is hosted on
2 a first computer and includes a means to receive an audio input, said method
3 comprising:

- 4 A. generating a Web page on a second computer;
- 5 B. defining a speech application script including a set of functionality configured to
6 manage a speech application session and control said SR system, without
7 accessing functionality from said second computer;
- 8 C. integrating said application script into said Web page;
- 9 D. loading said Web page, including said application script, from said second
10 computer to said first computer; and
- 11 E. establishing a set of standard interfaces between said application script and said
12 SR system.